



March 2, 2023

112 West Street
Annapolis, MD 21401

Favorable with Amendments- House Bill 834 – Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure – Requirements (Electric Vehicle Charging Reliability Act)

Potomac Electric Power Company (Pepco) and Delmarva Power & Light Company (Delmarva Power) support with amendments *House Bill 834 – Electric Vehicle Charging Infrastructure – Requirements (Electric Vehicle Charging Reliability Act)*. House Bill 834 require the Public Service Commission (PSC) to expand the existing Electric Vehicle (EV) Pilot Program to allow participating companies to install EV charging stations in multifamily dwellings in underserved communities, establish reliability standards for the availability of EV chargers and require additional reporting requirements for those reliability standards.

Maryland has adopted a goal of 300,000 zero-emission vehicles on the road by 2025 to help in achieving state greenhouse gas reduction goals. Naturally, the expansion and reliability of the EV charging systems is necessary to support that zero-emission vehicle target.

The legislation requires that an electric company operating an EV charging network have EV charging stations with average annual uptime of 97% of greater. This is a discussion that the Maryland Public Service Commission's Electric Vehicle Working Group was having, however, they decided to put those conversations on hold until the National Electric Vehicle Infrastructure (NEVI) standards are finalized. Because the working group is still considering this, and the federal NEVI standards have not been adopted, Pepco and Delmarva Power have concerns about adopting a standard that is not aligned with federal NEVI standards and respectfully ask that that that provision be removed.

Additionally, utilities are currently required by the PSC to report on its EVsmart program on a semi-annual basis. Increasing the frequency of this reporting would be burdensome and in our opinion, provide no real value to the goal of electric charger reliability improvement. Pepco and Delmarva Power respectfully request to allow the semi-annual reporting to continue.

Pepco and Delmarva Power understand that House Bill 834 is well-intentioned and if the Committee is inclined to pursue this legislation, we respectfully ask to continue conversations with the bill sponsor. Pepco and Delmarva Power respectfully request a favorable report on House Bill 834, if amendments are included to address the reliability and reporting requirements.

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